

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 are currently pending in the application with Claim 1 being the sole independent claim. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Banks (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0059069 A1).

Bank discloses a bending wave loudspeaker which includes a transparent acoustic radiator capable of supporting bending wave vibration and an electromechanical force transducer mounted to the acoustic radiator to excite bending waves in the acoustic radiator to produce an acoustic output.

With regards to independent Claim 1, the Examiner asserts that Bank discloses all the elements of the claim including "...a second portion extended from the first portion, for mounting a panel-type speaker to the lower surface of the second portion of the polarizing plate." (Fig. 2, Fig. 5, paragraphs 0054-0055, 0059 and 0061). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

A close inspection of the cited paragraphs reveals that Bank does not fairly teach, disclose or reasonably suggest the above limitation of Claim 1. At best, Bank discloses a transducer which includes a first piezoelectric beam on the back of which is mounted a second piezoelectric beam by connecting beams in the form of a stub located at the center of both beams. Each beam is a bi-morph. The first beam includes two layers of piezoelectric material and the second beam comprises two layers. Bank is concerned with the overall modality of the transducers whereas the present invention is directed to a panel-type speaker mounting structure. Accordingly, Bank fails to anticipate Claim 1.

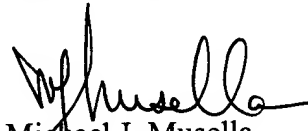
Further, the Examiner is incorrect in rejecting Claim 1 of the present invention because Bank clearly does not disclose a panel-type speaker mounting structure. This is a clear distinction between the present invention and Bank.

Accordingly, independent Claim 1 is allowable over Bank.

While not conceding the patentability of the dependent claims, *per se*, Claims 2 and 3 are also allowable for at least the above reasons.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 1-3, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Musella", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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